

Attorney Docket No. TS6632/US

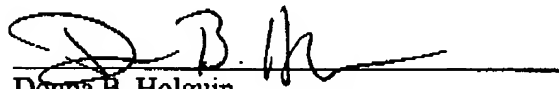
REMARKS/ARGUMENTS**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph**

The Examiner has maintained the rejection of Claims 11 to 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicants regard as the invention. In the Advisory Action the Examiner points to page 24 of Principles of Polymerization, 4th Ed. by George Odian as the basis for the statement that "SEC, GPC measure the molecular weight distribution as well as Mn and Mw automatically." It is noted that it is the Examiner's position that "...it is not possible to search the prior art references to identify the novelty of the application because the number average molecular weight is quite different from the weight average molecular weight."

Applicants disagree with the Examiners position as far as anionic polymerization is concerned. When considering radical polymerization, the number average molecular weight is quite different from the weight average molecular weight (polydispersed polymer). However, in anionic polymerization, this is not the case since the polymer produced is essentially monodispersed. That is, $M_n \approx M_w$. Support for this may be found in Principles of Polymerization, 2nd Ed., page 388 by George Odian (section 5.3, pages 372-389 attached hereto as Appendix A). In view of this, Applicants maintain that sufficient information regarding the molecular weight of the present polymer is present to allow the Examiner to carry out a search on the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the final rejection of said application be withdrawn and that the Examiner carry out said search.

Respectfully submitted,

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